
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

Financial literacy can tremendously benefit the public by leading to wiser decision-making and creating greater opportunities to build more stable lives. It can help protect us from consumer fraud and mismanagement of funds, and it prepares us to meet unexpected situations including health care emergencies and job loss. In addition, financial literacy can help us better plan for the future, whether that future may include a growing family, buying a home, starting a business or paying for college.

While paying for college may seem daunting, money invested in education can bring great returns when it comes to gaining the knowledge and skills needed to build a bright future. To help pay for college, our state and federal governments offer numerous financial aid programs, many of which are available year-round. Along with these programs, California also offers a fantastic education at a very affordable price through our 109 community colleges. I am a proud alumnus of one of them, Santa Monica College, and these institutions prepare millions of students for successful, fulfilling careers with the help of some outstanding financial aid programs. For more information on California's community colleges, along with state and federal financial aid programs, please visit www.icanaffordcollege.com or your campus' financial aid office.

Throughout this month, the state Department of Financial Institutions and Department of Corporations will partner with educational and governmental entities, private sector financial institutions, community groups and others to offer free education services and programs in support of their year-long theme, "Start learning today for a strong financial tomorrow. Financial literacy: It pays."

I encourage all Californians to take advantage of these and other state financial aid and literacy resources. Doing so will help give you the knowledge and tools you need to budget, save, invest, manage your finances and prepare for the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 2008, as "Financial Aid and Literacy Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 9th day of April 2008.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN
Secretary of State